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National Union of Students (India) (cover and 11 pages)

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Approved For Release 2001/08/14 : CIA-RDP83-00415R003800030021-3

OF

THIS IS AN ENCLOSURE

DO NOT DETACH

THE NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS (INDIA)

Chairman:

DR. ZAKIR HUSSAIN.

ALIGARH

The Principal and the General Secretary of the College union
College,

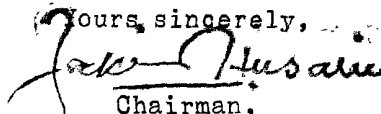
Dear Sir/Madam,

I have great pleasure in forwarding to you copies of (a) the Draft Constitution of the proposed National Union of Students of India, (b) the procedure to be followed in calling the National Convention for the formation of the NUS. & (c) an appeal for the co-operation of every educational institution in the scheme signed by the National leaders and the Vice-Chancellors of Indian Universities.

I feel sure that you will welcome the idea of a non-political, National Union of Students solely devoted to the important task of regenerating the student community of the country and representing it in international student bodies and conferences. I, therefore invite your support and co-operation in forming the NUS, and specially request you to send the delegates chosen by your college to the National Convention, the date and venue of which will be intimated to you as early as possible through the press. The convention is likely to take place in Delhi, Nagpur or Bombay sometime in December.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,



Chairman,

THE NATIONAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

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GANDHIJI ON THE NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS (INDIA)

Students' Difficulties :—

1-There is an attempt today to bring together all the existing students' organisations in a National Convention, to revise the basis of the student movement and to evolve a united national organisation of students. What, in your opinion, should this students' organisation undertake in the new circumstances in the country ?

A-There is no doubt that there should be one national organisation including the Hindus the Muslims and the others. Students are the makers of the future. They cannot be partitioned. I am sorry to observe that neither the students have thought for themselves nor have the leaders left them to their studies so that they can become good citizens. The rot began with the alien Government. We, the inheritors, have not taken the trouble to rectify the errors of the past. Then the different political groups have sought to catch the students as if they were shoals of fish. And stupidly the students have run into the net spread for them.

It is therefore a herculean task for any students' organisation to undertake. But there must be a heroic spirit among them who would not shrink from the task. The scope will be to knit them together into one. This they cannot do unless they will learn to steer clear of active politics. A student's duty is to study the various problems that require solution. His time for action comes after he finishes his studies.

Harijan, August, 17th 1947.

2-What should students' organisations do ? What should be their objective ? Today as you know, students' organisations are considered as stepping stones to entrance into political life. Some exploit them for that purpose.

A-If there is one compact students' organisation, it can become a mighty instrument of service. Their objective can only be one : never for the purpose of finding a lucrative career but fitting themselves for the service of the motherland. If they were to do so, their knowledge would attain a great height. Agitation is only for those who had completed their studies. While studying, the only occupation of students must be to increase their knowledge.

Harijan, September, 7th 1947
Adapted from the original in Gujarati

NATIONAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Dr. Zakir Hussain

Convenors:

Shri Ravindra Varma

Shri Sugata Dasgupta

Treasurer

Shri Shyamsundar Kanoria

Advisory Board:

Dr. Rajendra Prasad

Dr. S. Radhakrishnan

Shri Jai Prakash Narain

Shri Shankerrao Deo

Prof. D. P. Mukherji

Prof. P. A. Wadia

Prof. S. K. George

Shri S. K. Patil and others

Members:

Acharya Narendra Dev

Shri Saumendranath Tagore

Shri Ram Krishna Bajaj

Shri Raghavan N. Iyer

Shri P. M. Padmanabh

Shri Narendra Goyal

Shri Amba Prasad

Shri Manoranjan Dutta

Shri Bijen Biswas

Shri Ram Krishna Sinha

Editorial in **Amrita Bazar Patrika**, Calcutta, dated, June 22nd 49.

National Union of Students

WE CORDIALLY WELCOME the move for the formation of an All-India Students' National Union.....At the present moment most of the students' organisations are attached to this or that political party. The result has been disastrous to the students themselves. Their study has seriously suffered, and what is even worse, they have been unable to give their time and attention to activities which would promote the real welfare of the students. There is a lot of matter in which students, as students, are interestedIf the students will only think for themselves how they can promote their welfare so long as they are students and in future when they will be called upon to discharge the responsibilities of citizenship, they will discover that much of their energy and intelligence are being wasted as victims of political shibboleths. The lack of discipline and a proper sense of morality among students is perhaps the most fearful malaise of the present society.....For want of a proper organisation to look after their real interests the majority have no alternative but to follow the policies of some of the existing organisations, however undesirable the activities of the latter may be. All this can be remedied only if a National Union of Students is formed free from political attachments or affiliations.

We believe there is a widespread desire amongst students, particularly the advanced ones in the colleges and universities, to have a non-political central organisation. Dr. Zakir Hussain who is universally respected deserves the thanks of all for the interest he has been taking in the matter.

Students' Union

A COMMENDABLE move has been sponsored to form a National Union of Students of India which will be non-political in character and concerned only with student affairs.Political polemics have marred student organisations in this country and the need for a new body on non-political lines is widely felt.

.....It is to be hoped that the movement, true to its ideals, will concentrate on nation-building and constructive activities eschewing all party politics.

TIMES OF INDIA 13/8/49

The National Union of Students of India

An Appeal by National Leaders

We are glad to learn that the National Preparatory Committee for the establishment of a National Union of students in India is making good progress under the guidance of its Chairman, Dr. Zakir Hussain. For some time now, the student movement in our country has become disorganized and ineffective because of party-politics and bickerings and nothing was being done to bring these groups together on a common platform to deal with matters of common concern to the student community. We are happy, therefore, to learn that the National Preparatory Committee has undertaken the task of fulfilling this need, by working for the establishment of a National Union which will be an autonomous and representative students' organization, independent of all political, communal or Governmental influence. We hope that this National Union will be able to enthuse the students of our country and enable them to make their constructive contribution to the task of building up our nation.

J. B. Kripalani
Shankerrao Deo.

S. Radha Krishnan
Narendra Dev.

Rajendra Prasad
Jai Prakash Narain

An appeal by the Vice-chancellors

We are glad to hear that, since some time, there has been an organised attempt in the country to enable its student community to constitute a non-political National Union which will confine itself to matters of common concern to all students and eschew every extraneous point of controversy. The N. U. S. is expected to enthuse all Indian students as it will seek to supplement their academic work by means of constructive nation-building activities, and help them to realise their individual potentialities and social obligations. We warmly welcome such an organization which will work towards the enrichment of the material and cultural life of the entire student community, and we extend to it our support and co-operation. We, further, appeal to the heads of different educational institutions to encourage the student unions under them to participate actively in this worthy national endeavour and render its work a complete and inspiring success.

Zakir Hussain ALIGARH
Narendra Dev. LUCKNOW

Kunjilal Dube. NAGPUR
Sharangdhar Singh PATNA

An appeal by the National Preparatory Committee

TO EVERY INDIAN to serve his country's cause by donating his mite, sending his views and offering his help to the NPC of the NUS.

TO EVERY STUDENT to work for the immediate establishment of a free democratic, and active Union in his educational institution.

TO ALL STUDENT GROUPS to dissolve their differences, liquidate their rival organisations, and support the idea and the formation of the NUS.

TO ALL POLITICAL LEADERS to assist in the smooth and successful working of this united, non-partisan and autonomous national organisation, keeping their party sections distinct and separate.

TO ALL EDUCATIONISTS AND GOVERNMENTS to lend their positive support to this move to make the youth of India the pride of the nation and the hope of the future.

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS. ?

History of the idea.

Ever since the British Government announced their intention of quitting the Country, and the Interim Government came to power, the politics of our country have been in a flux. Everybody has been feeling the need for readjustment. The workers of the A. I. Students Congress too were feeling that in the changed national context, a thorough re-orientation of the Student Movement was an immediate necessity. The Working Committee of the A. I. Students Congress which met at Udaipur in June 1947 adopted a resolution calling for a "swift and deliberate change-over from the agitational and demonstrative side of our Anti-Imperialist activities to the constructive tasks of nation-building". The Committee therefore appealed to the students of India to forget the bickerings of the past and to assemble together in a National Convention to discuss and decide upon the re-orientation of the movement. This appeal was cordially received by the provincial organisations representing groups which were not in the A. I. Students Congress. At that time, the All India Students Federation (Communist) also welcomed this scheme, but recently, for the reasons best known to them only, as usual with the Communist controlled organisations these days, they have opposed the N. U. S. Either they should control it or they are out of it seems to be their general attitude. The resolution of the Working Committee was then ratified at the Annual Session of the A. I. Students' Congress which was held at Bangalore in 1948. The Annual Session then appointed a National Preparatory Committee to contact other sections of the Student Community and to work out a common and accepted plan for the holding of the National Convention. It was also suggested that the National Preparatory Committee would draft a Constitution for the new National Union that would emerge from the Convention. Dr. Zakir Hussain, Vice Chancellor of the Aligarh University was kind enough to agree to be the Chairman of the Committee and Shri Ravindra Varma and Sugata Das Gupta were elected Conveners of the N. P. C. The N. P. C. includes Students from almost all the organized sections of Students. Acharya Narendra Deo and Shri Saumendranath Tagore are among the members of the Preparatory Committee. An Advisory Board consisting of eminent men like Dr. Rajendraprasad, Dr. Radhakrishnan, Shri Jayaprakashnarayan, Prof. P. A. Wadia, Shri Shankerrao Deo, Shri S. K. Patil and others has been set up to advise the N. P. C. Apart from these the N. P. C. has also been able to secure the support of Acharya Kripalani, Dr. Lohia and so many other prominent leaders and educationists. This N. P. C. recently prepared a Draft Constitution and also decided upon the procedure to be adopted for holding the National Convention, which are given else where in this book-let.

In brief the Constitution of the N. U. S. is:—

The National Union will be a Federation of the College Unions in our Country. It will be an autonomous organisation pursuing its objects in entire independence of all Govt. and

mental influence and Political, Social and Religious Groups or propaganda. It shall not concern itself with any matter which does not concern Students as such.

The N. U. S. will therefore be a non-political organization of students seeking to re-unite the entire Student Community on the basis of all matters of common interest, and ruthlessly eschewing all sectional interests which have been responsible for the discord and disunity in the past.

Ample and unequivocal provisions have been laid down in the Constitution to ensure that the N. U. S. is not "captured" and made use of as a vehicle of the political propaganda of any Party. On matters of policy and in the event of a controversy, no resolution will be valid unless it secures the support of 75% of the College Unions in the Country.

What will the N. U. S. Do ?

It will :

- (1) organise health-building activities such as games, sports and tournaments.
- (2) foster a movement for building up the character, discipline, honesty, integrity and efficiency of Students.
- (3) organise inter-provincial picnics, excursions, tours etc.
- (4) organise study circles, debating societies and citizenship institutes.
- (5) establish libraries, reading rooms and publish journals and other useful literature.
- (6) establish student houses, co-operative messes, co-operative stores and clinics for students.
- (7) provide scholarships, loans and arrange part-time jobs for needy students.
- (8) establish an information bureau on educational matters.
- (9) organize inter-provincial and inter-national exchange of students.
- (10) organize relief squads, ambulance work, and work for the removal of social evils like untouchability, dowry, illiteracy and corruption, etc. etc.

The N. P. C. has set up Regional Committees in the various provinces to assist them in the work in their respective areas. The Central Office of the N. P. C. is in charge of Sri Ravindra Varma. 3, Electric Lane, New Delhi, and zonal offices have been opened at Bombay and Calcutta.

It is expected that the Convention will be held in November this year. As soon as the Convention meets or even earlier most of the existing Student Organisations, including the India Students Congress, have agreed to dissolve themselves and merge in the N. U. S.

BANGALORE RESOLUTION ON THE N. U. S.

This eleventh session of the A.I.S.C. has given its careful consideration to the new situation that has arisen in the country after the 15th of August 1947. The conference is emphatically of the opinion that the political and constitutional changes that have followed the transfer of power have created a new national situation where old problems are fading into the background, yielding place to new and stupendous problems. The ending of the era of direct foreign domination and the new inter-national status acquired by our nation have transferred the responsibility for progress to our shoulders and made it possible for us to fashion out the future of our nation. We believe therefore that the time has come for the student community of India to make a re-consideration of the fundamentals of our movement to enable us to effect a swift and deliberate change-over from the agitational and demonstrative side of our anti-imperialist activities to the constructive tasks of nation-building by working to strengthen the bonds of national unity, combating the reactionary forces of communalism, aggressive provincialism, capitalism and feudalism, which are threatening to thwart and eclipse the lofty ideals that have inspired our movement for national liberation, by working for a sound, democratic and dynamic system of National Education, by combating social orthodoxy and ignorance, illiteracy and all kinds of subtle exploitation that thrive on the present diseased state of society and above all by working for economic equality and political democracy. We further believe that this changeover from the agitational and demonstrative movement of the past to a resurgent movement for all-round national and socio-economic reconstruction is so radical that it makes it necessary for us to plan the basis and functioning of our movement *de novo*.

Though the political and national exigencies in the past and the primary duty of every son of the soil to take his legitimate share in the struggle for national liberation had necessarily made our movement essentially political, we always realised that the student movement of our country has to be the authentic expression of the urges and aspirations of the entire student community, dealing with our interest, safeguarding our common rights and enabling the student community as a whole to make its contribution to national and social advancement. The new national situation has only strengthened us in our belief that it is necessary for us to confine ourselves to matters of common concern, eliminating all matters that bear the seeds of discord and disagreement.

Whereas we believe that our movement has now become the national movement of the free students of a free country, whereas the loyalty to our new born state and the desire to fulfil our freedom through democracy and socialism and the urge to share the responsibilities of building up a powerful and democratic nation are common to all sections of the student community, whereas we believe that the common student movement should confine its to the matters of common concern, eschewing all sectional interests and matters of discord.

disruption, whereas we believe that such an organisation should be able to enthuse and represent every student in the country irrespective of political, social or religious beliefs and whereas we believe that such an organisation cannot exist or function effectively without the active co-operation of every student of our country, we have come to the conclusion that the re-organisation of our movement must be such that every student in every college and high-school (the last three classes) in India is considered, *ipso-facto*, a member of the organisation and that students in colleges and high schools should be organised through institutional unions which are affiliated to district and provincial unions which in turn are affiliated to the National Union.

This conference further wants to make it clear that the Student Unions of colleges and high schools contemplated in this resolution are far different from the college and university unions that exist today. In many schools and colleges these unions do not exist at all and even where they exist, in many places, they have been formed with undemocratic constitutions and authoritarian influence, and they have been degenerated into attenuated debating societies. This state of affairs must cease and these college unions must be refashioned on the anvils of democracy, and student unions in a free India should become the focal point of the life of colleges and high schools, dealing with all matters of common concern to the student community resisting any bureaucratic attempts to suppress their rights and liberties, agitating for a thorough overhauling of the educational system, organising the entire corporate life of the students of the institutions supplementing their education, developing a sense of discipline, character and efficiency, and training them for enlightened citizenship in a secular, democratic and socialist State. For this purpose it is imperative that such student unions should be established in all colleges and high schools in our country, and that standardized democratic constitution providing ample scope for such activities unfettered by all authoritarian methods from the Government as well as the authorities of the educational institutions should be formulated and accepted as the basis of all the student unions in the colleges and high schools in our country. The delegates elected to represent the unions on the basis of one for 500 students should meet together in a National Convention to draft the manifesto and the constitution of the National Union.

We are fully conscious of the fact that such a radical scheme will depend for its success on the cooperation we can secure from all sections of the student community, irrespective of their political or organizational affiliations from the teaching staff and the officials of colleges, high schools and universities, from the educationists of our country, from the education ministries of our central and provincial Governments and the leaders of our nation. We therefore appeal to all of them to co-operate with us in this great task of revitalizing the student movement in our country and enabling the student community to make its full contribution to the all-round regeneration of our nation. In particular, we appeal to the student community irrespective of political and organizational affiliations to carry on a wholehearted movement for the establishment of such unions and for the democratisation of the unions where they already

exist. We appeal to the enlightened educationists of our country to appreciate the place of such a movement in the reorientation of our educational system, and to use their good offices with the educational and Governmental authorities for helping in the early establishment of these democratic student unions. To the political parties and organisations in our country, we make this special appeal to help us to preserve and reorganize the student movement of our country, by restricting our organization to matters of common interest and concern and by scrupulously eschewing all matters of discord and disruption. We further authorise the working committee of the A. I. S. C. to constitute a reorganization committee which with the cooperation of eminent educationists and others concerned will work out a model democratic constitution for the National Union and work through all possible ways for the implementation of the scheme of re-organisation.

While we are aware of the fact that such a radical scheme involving the consent and cooperation of all would take time to be implemented, we are anxious that the new programme should not be held up or soft-pedalled due to this unavoidable delay. We believe that the tremendous energy and enthusiasm of the student community should be immediately harnessed to the tasks of constructive nation building and specially to the tasks of evolving a better and re-organised educational system. We also realise that a special duty has been cast on the A. I. S. C. by virtue of the fact that it has always represented the overwhelming majority of the students of this country and enabled the student community to make a glorious, effective and heroic contribution to the nation's fight for freedom. We therefore, resolve that the A. I. S. C. should forthwith adopt the principles and programmes that have been mentioned above, and make the necessary amendements in its constitution. We direct all our provincial units to hold provincial conferences within two months from today, at which the fundamentals of this scheme of re-organisation should be explained and reiterated. The All India Student's Congress, shall, thereafter, consider all students in colleges and high schools *ipso facto* members of the organization, and shall further adopt and implement the programmes listed above. On the establishment of the student unions in the colleges and high schools and the meeting of the National Convention, the units of the A. I. S. C. in the colleges and educational institutions, the districts, the provinces and the Centre shall merge in the National Union that is evolved by the Convention. In conclusion, we reiterate our appeal to the student community to realise the urgent necessity to reorganise the student movement, and to enable the students to play a role in the regeneration of our nation as glorious and effective as our heroic contribution to the nation's struggle for freedom.

Bangalore July 1948

PROCEDURE FOR THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

The National Preparatory Committee of the National Union of students decided upon the following procedure to be adopted in convening the National Convention at its Simla session held on the 18th of June, 1949,

(1) Students unions in all educational institutions in the Indian Union which have on their rolls a minimum of 50 students who are undergoing courses of study in Arts, Science, Medicine, Engineering, Commerce or technical faculties, recognized by the Government or a University as higher than the matriculation standard, are eligible for association with the NUS. Such unions shall pass a resolution supporting the scheme and proposing to join the National Convention.

(2) The above unions shall send delegates to the Convention on the basis of one for every 300 members, provided that every union shall have at least one, and in any case not more than 15 delegates

(3) In determining the value of fractions, $1/2$ or more than half shall be treated as one, and any fraction less than $1/2$ shall be treated as Zero.

(4) Delegates to the Convention shall be elected from among the students of the college either directly by the members of every college union or indirectly by the executive committee or office bearers of the college union.

(5) Every college union joining the convention shall send, in advance, the list of names of its delegates, also stating the number of its members, countersigned by the head of the institutoin, to the N. P. C. at its Bombay or Delhi office.

(6) Every delegate to the Convention shall carry a letter of authorisation from the head of his/her institution to the N P. C. that he/she is duly elected from his/her constituent organisation.

(7) The delegates from every college shall have to pay on affiliation fee of Rs. 5/- per union on behalf of their union to the N P. C.

Note:— It is intended to call the Convention in Delhi, Nagpur or Bombay sometime in December. The exact place, date and time will be announced in the Press as soon as possible.

DRAFT CONSTITUTION

OF

The National Union of Students of India.

(Passed by the National Preparatory Committee at its Simla session held on the 18th and 19th July 1949, and to be placed before the National Convention which is to be called for the formation of the National Union of Students.)

Article I :-

Name : The Name of the Association shall be the "National Union of Students of India", to be briefly designated NUS, and hereinafter referred to as the National Union.

Article II :-

Objects : The National Union shall be a federal association of the student unions of the Universities and Colleges in the Indian Union and such other student organizations as may, from time to time, be declared eligible for association with the National Union; The National Union shall be an autonomous organisation whose objects shall be pursued in entire independence of all Governmental influence and political, social and religious groups or propaganda and shall not permit any action which does not concern students as such.

The objects of the National Union, subject to the above proviso, shall be:

- (1) to represent the students of the Indian Union nationally and internationally, and to promote and maintain cultural and intellectual co-operation among the students of the various provinces and with the students of other countries;
- (2) to work for the betterment of the material and cultural life of the student community;
- (3) to study the educational problems before the country, and suggest ways and means for educational expansion and reform and to safeguard the legitimate interests of the student community;
- (4) to make every student mentally and physically equipped to take his proper place in the national services and professions;
- (5) to make every student an enlightened citizen by arousing his political, social, economic and civic consciousness, by combating all forms of sectarianism and social orthodoxy; and
- (6) to enable the student community to take its due share in the defence of national unity and democratic freedom, and in the reconstruction of our national life.

Article III :-

Functions : The National Union shall carry on all such activities as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects including:

- (1) The organization of health-building activities, such as games, sports, and tournaments ;
- (2) the fostering of a movement for self-improvement among students by developing character, discipline, sense of responsibility, honesty, integrity and efficiency ;
- (3) the development of fellow-feeling and community life among students by organizing picnics, excursions and tours, and by providing amenities for social intercourse ;
- (4) the organization of debating societies, study circles, and citizenship institutes ;
- (5) the establishment of libraries, reading rooms, and the publication of journals and other useful literature ;
- (6) the establishment of student-houses, co-operative messes, co-operative stores and clinics for students ;
- (7) the provision of scholarships, loans and part-time jobs for needy students ;
- (8) the provision of information and assistance to students for studies or future careers through information and employment bureau ;
- (9) the encouragement of the dispassionate study of the various problems facing the country and the organization of research ;
- (10) the encouragement of inter-provincial and inter-national exchange of students and the making of the available conditions of students-travel and exchange better and more beneficial ;
- (11) the participation in social service scheme by organizing relief squads and ambulance work, working for the removal of untouchability, castes, dowry, illiteracy, corruption and other social evils ;
- (12) the encouragement of students in taking their due share in the creative activities and cultural life of the nation by starting amateur dramatic groups, and art societies.

Article IV :-

Membership : Full membership shall be open to the representative student unions in any University or College in the Indian Union, provided that :

- (i) the educational institution referred to above has on its rolls a minimum of 50 students, who are undergoing courses of study in Arts, Science, Medicine, Engineering, Commerce or Technical Faculties, recognized by the Government or a University or the Judicial Committee of the National Union, as higher than the Matriculation Standard;
- (ii) the student union applying for membership fulfils the minimum conditions laid down in Schedule (A) with regard to its constitution and functioning;
- (iii) it submits a statement of the number of members on its rolls (class-wise) on or before a day fixed for that purpose by the Judicial Committee every academic year;
- (iv) it fulfils the financial obligations laid down in Schedule (B) and accepts the objects of the National Union and agrees to abide by the rules and regulations of the National Union as laid down in this Constitution and standing orders and other resolutions adopted by the competent bodies of the National Union from time to time.

The application for affiliation shall be addressed to the General Secretary who shall place it before the Judicial Committee, which Committee after scrutiny and examination, shall make the recommendation that it deems fit to the General Council. Any Student Union admitted to full membership shall be called a "Constituent Organisation" of the National Union.

B. Provisional Membership.

In the absence within any University or College as defined in Article IV (A) hereof, of a representative Student Union fulfilling the conditions laid down in Schedule A, it shall be open to the Judicial Committee to grant provisional membership to any voluntary organisation in such an educational institution that fulfils the conditions laid down in Article IV; (iii) and (iv), and is certified by the head of the institution concerned.

Provided that the organisation thus granted Provisional Membership undertakes to work for the early formation of an association that fulfils the conditions for full membership.

C. Individual Membership.

Any person who has been on the rolls of an educational institution as defined in Article IV not earlier than 2 years before the date of application, and/or is preparing for an Examination recognised as higher than the Matriculation standard who agrees with the objects of the National Union may enrol himself as a Member of the Student Union of the institution in which he studied last.

D. Honorary Membership

The Congress or Council of the National Union may by a resolution confer Honorary life membership of the General Council on any person who, in their opinion, has rendered meritorious service to the student cause.

The year of membership shall be reckoned from the 1st of January to the 31st of December.

Article V.

Organizations in Association. Student organizations not eligible to become constituent organizations may apply to become organizations in association in the same manner as applicants for full membership. The privileges and duties of the organizations in Association shall, subject as hereinafter mentioned, be the same as those of constituent organizations, except that organizations in Association shall not be entitled to nominate delegates to the Council but may send fraternal delegates or observers to the Council or the Congress, who may, at the discretion of the Chairman, be given the right to take part in discussion, but shall have no voting rights.

Article VI.

Mandated delegates. The Constituent Unions shall send mandated delegates to the Congress on the basis of one for every 300 members, provided that every Constituent Union shall have at least one, and in any case not more than 15 delegates.

Article VII.

Provincial Unions. (i) The mandated delegates from any one Province shall constitute the Provincial Council of the National Union in that Province. Each Provincial Council shall elect a Provincial Executive and a General Secretary. The General Secretary and the Provincial Executive shall be responsible to the Provincial Council and shall be elected by single transferable vote.

(ii) The Provincial Executive and General Secretary shall function under the standing orders laid down by the Provincial Council.

(iii) The Provinces shall mean the Provinces listed in Schedule C with their headquarters as mentioned therein.

Article VIII.

General Council. (i) The General Council shall be the representative and deliberative body of the National Union, with plenary powers in between sessions of the Congress;

- (ii) The Provincial Councils shall meet at least six weeks before the Congress, and elect from among themselves or the other members of the Constituent Unions in their Province representatives to the General Council of the National Union on the basis of one for every 30 members of the Provincial Council provided that every Provincial Union shall have at least one representative on the General Council. The election shall be by single transferable vote, and the names of the members of the General Council shall be submitted to the Judicial Committee and the Secretariat of the National Union at least 4 weeks before the date fixed for the Annual Congress.
- (iii) The General Council shall meet at least twice in the year, unless convened by the President of the National Union, or by the Secretary on a requisition signed by 1/3 of the members of the Council.

Article IX.

The Annual Congress and Fair (i) The Annual Plenary Session of the National Union shall be called the Congress. It shall be the ultimate mandatory and plenary body of the National Union, to lay down the policies and programmes of the National Union and shall be held generally in December at such time and place as decided upon by the Council in a meeting held at least two months earlier.

- (ii) *The Annual Fair*—An annual fair of cultural shows, variety programmes, tournaments, contests, elocution competitions, exhibition, shall be held at the time and venue of the Congress.

Article X.

The Fair and Congress Committee (i) The Fair and Congress Committee shall be constituted at the session of the General Council that decides upon the venue and date of the Congress, and shall consist of 5 representatives each of the Central Executive of the National Union, and Provincial Executive of the Province in which the Plenary Session is being held, and one nominee of the Finance Committee of the National Union.

- (ii) The Fair and Congress Committee shall elect its own Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, and shall itself act, or appoint a Committee to act as the Reception Committee for the plenary Congress.
- (iii) The Committee shall be responsible for all financial and other arrangements for the holding of the Congress and Fair unless otherwise provided for by the preceding session of the Council, and shall carry out its work in consultation with the Sub-Committees of the National Union.
- (iv) The Committee shall publish the audited accounts of its income and expenditure within ~~one month~~

Article XI

The Judicial Committee. The Judicial Committee of the National Union shall consist of the President and General Secretary of the National Union, and 15 members, of whom at least 5 shall be members of the constituent units. Honorary members of the National Union shall also be eligible for election to the Judicial Committee. The Judicial Committee shall be elected every year by the session of the General Council that decides upon the venue and date of the Annual Congress through the system of single transferable voting.

The Committee shall elect its own Chairman and Secretary, and shall;

- (i) conduct the elections of the National Union through direct or delegated authority, and be the final court of appeal in election disputes;
- (ii) be the final authority to interpret the clauses and provisions of this Constitution;
- (iii) advise the National Union on all matters referred to it by the Central Executive or the General Council or Provincial Units;
- (iv) recommend modifications to the constitutions of constituent units and;
- (v) take over the assets and liabilities of the Constitution in the event of the breakdown of the Constitution.

Article XII.

The Finance Committee. The Finance Committee of the National Union shall consist of the President and General Secretary of the National Union, and 15 members, of whom at least 5 shall be the members of the constituent units. Honorary members shall also be eligible for election to the Finance Committee. The Committee shall be elected every year at the Session of the General Council that decides upon the venue and date of the Annual Congress, by single transferable vote. The Committee shall elect its own Secretary, who, under its supervision, shall:

- (i) be responsible for the collection and maintenance of the funds of the National Union;
- (ii) appoint the auditors of the National Union, and manage all financial transactions of the National Union;
- (iii) keep accounts of the assets and liabilities, and income and expenditure of the National Union; and
- (iv) submit the annual statement of accounts for scrutiny at the session of the Council that determines the venue and date of the Annual Congress.

Article XIII.

Departments, Departmental Committees, and Sub-Committees. (i) The National Union shall have separate departments for such special fields of activity as games and sports, health, theatre and music, literary and cultural activities, debates and study circles, tours and picnics.

The work of each Department shall be managed by a Departmental Committee, appointed for the purpose by the Central Executive. Each Departmental Committee shall elect its own Secretary.

- (ii) The Council and/or the Central Executive may appoint Sub-Committees of the same as they may decide from time to time. and the membership, terms of reference and appointment of such Committees, shall be decided by the Council and/or the Executive in their discretion, subject always to any regulations or standing orders governing the appointment of such Committees.

Article XIV.

The Officers and Central Executive. (i) The officers of the National Union shall include the President, two Vice-Presidents, and one General Secretary.

- (ii) The Central Executive of the National Union shall consist of the President, 2 Vice-Presidents, the General Secretary, and 15 members elected by the General Council by single transferable vote. The Executive shall have the right to co-opt from among the members of the General Council a number of members not exceeding 1/3 the total membership of the Executive.
- (iii) The Executive shall be responsible for the management of the affairs of the National Union except when the Council is in session, and shall be the co-ordinating and governing body of the National Union, responsible for implementing the decisions of the Council and the Congress.
- (iv) The Executive shall meet at least four times an year or as often as is summoned by the President, and by the General Secretary when a requisition signed by 1/3 of the members of the Executive is submitted to him.
- (v) The Executive shall prepare the agenda for the meetings of the Council.

Article XV.

The President. The President of the National Union shall be elected by the General Council from among its own members at the session of the Council held during

the Annual Congress. The election shall be by the elimination system providing for absolute majority.

The President shall be responsible for summoning the meetings of the Executive, and the Council; and shall preside over the meetings of the Executive, the Council and the Congress. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all the Committees set up by the Executive or the Council of the National Union. No member of the National Union shall be eligible for re-election as President.

Article XVI.

Vice Presidents. (i) There shall be two Vice-Presidents of the National Union who shall be elected by the General Council from among its own members at the sitting of the Council held during the Annual Congress. The election shall be by the elimination system providing for absolute majority.

(ii) The Vice-Presidents shall assist the President in the performance of his duties.

(iii) In the event of the President being temporarily incapacitated, the Central Executive shall nominate one of the Vice-Presidents as the Senior Vice-President who shall perform the functions of the President.

Article XVII.

The General Secretary. The General Secretary of the National Union shall be elected by the General Council from among its own members at the sitting of the Council held during the Annual Session. The election shall be by the elimination system providing for absolute majority.

The General Secretary shall be responsible for the functioning of the office, the maintenance of proper records, and for the day to day implementation of the decisions of the Executive, and the Council, and shall co-ordinate the working of the Departmental Committees and the Sub-Committees of the National Union. He shall be an Ex-officio member of all the Committees set up by the Executive or the Council of the National Union. No member of the National Union shall be eligible for re-election as General Secretary.

Article XVIII.

Permanent Staff. There shall be a permanent staff and Secretariat of the National Union, consisting of persons appointed by the Executive.

Article XIX.

Resignations and Vacancies. Vacancies caused by Resignation or other reasons shall be filled by the Executive in which the vacancy member was elected, provided,

however, that the Central Executive may fill up the vacancy temporarily till the next session of the Council.

Article XX.

No-Confidence Motions. The Council may remove by a vote of no-confidence any office-bearer elected by it, provided that:

- (i) a notice shall be issued to the office-bearer as well as to the members of the Council, at least one month before the motion is taken up in the Council;
- (ii) a motion of no-Confidence shall not be considered as passed unless 60% or more of the members present and voting in the Council vote in favour of it; and
- (iii) that a motion of no-confidence on the President or the General Secretary shall bear the signature of 1/3 of the total number of members of the Council, before it is placed on the agenda and circulated to the members of the Council.

Article XXI.

Right of Secession. Any constituent union shall have the right to secede from the National Union, if 75% of the members present and voting at the meeting of the General body of the Constituent Union votes in favour of such secession, provided that such secession shall not absolve the constituent union of its financial and other responsibilities to the National Union till one month after the date on which the decision to secede is communicated to the National Union.

Article XXII.

Referendum. If on any resolution, or question put to the General Council or Congress 1/3 of its members present demand a referendum, the resolution shall be circulated by the Executive to the Provincial Units and or the constituent units, as desired by the members demanding the referendum, and such a resolution circulated on a demand for referendum shall not be considered as adopted unless 2/3 of the Provincial and/or Constituent units vote in favour of it.

Article XXIII.

No office-bearer of the National Union shall, during his tenure of office, hold any post of responsibility in any political Party or Association.

Article XXIV.

Fractions. In determining the value of fractions, 1/2 or more than half shall be treated as one, and any fraction less than 1/2 shall be treated as zero.

Article XXV.

Changes in the Constitution. The Preamble to the constitution and Articles II and III of the Constitution, may be modified only by the procedure laid down for a Referendum in Article XXII herebefore;

Other articles may be changed in the Plenary session of the Congress if 2/3 of the delegates present vote in favour of the amendment.

Schedule A.

The students' union in a College/University/or any other educational institution recognised by the Judicial Committee applying for affiliation to the National Union shall have to be democratically constituted, and shall satisfy the following two general conditions.

A. All the students of the institution concerned shall be *ipso facto* members of the students' union.

B. All the office-bearers of the students' union shall be elected directly or indirectly by the members of the union from among themselves.

Note: In the case of a students union (in a College/University/or any other educational institution recognised by the Judicial Committee of the National Union) which does not regard every student in the institution as an *ipso facto* member, but has voluntarily enrolled membership applying for membership, the application shall be sent to the Judicial Committee for scrutiny and disposal.

Schedule B.

Every Constituent Union that applies for full membership shall pay to the National Union an affiliation fee of Rs. 5, and an annual subscription calculated on the basis of As. 4 per member of the Constituent Union.

Note: 50% of the proceeds realised as above shall be paid to the Provincial Union in which the Constituent Union is situated, and the other 50% shall be credited to the funds of the National Union.

Schedule : C.

Provinces and their head-quarters: (To be prepared at the time of the convention.)

From

Dated.....

.....College Union.

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To

The Chairman,
NATIONAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
(for the formation of the National Union of Students)
3, Electric Lane, New DELHI.

Dear Sir,

Our College Union has decided to join the first convention/called by the National Preparatory Committee to form the National Union of Students, of India. This College has.....students on its roll and therefore it will be sending.....delegates to the convention on the basis of one per 300. The delegates will carry with them letters of authorisation from the head of this institution as desired. We are sending in advance the names will send of the delegates for your record. and Rs. 5/- as affiliation fee.

Yours sincerely,